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battens of the prior art were used. The roof batten of this invention will not rot, warp, or absorb water as do many of the wooden roof battens of the prior art. Exemplary batten 30 further eliminates excessive nail protrusion through roof coverings, which can also promote water penetration and roof damage. Roof batten 30 of this invention may also enable a substantial decrease in time and expense necessary to install a tile roof as compared to lathe-batten systems of the prior art. Because one embodiment of roof batten 30 includes a pliable, yet resilient resin, tile breakage during installation is reduced when workers step on installed tiles. Other benefits of utilizing batten 30 include elimination of waste and wood splinters during installation. Exemplary battens 30 also weigh less than wooden battens. In contrast to wood battens, battens 30 are easily cut to desired lengths with utility knives.

Because numerous modifications may be made of this invention without departing from the spirit thereof, the scope of the invention is not to be limited to the embodiments illustrated and described. Rather, the scope of the invention is to be determined by appended claims and their equivalence.

What is claimed is:

1. A tile roof system, comprising:
an overlayment;
a tile; and
a batten disposable between the tile and the overlayment, the batten comprising:
at least one layer comprising a generally planar first ply and a second ply, the first and second plies cooperating to define a multiplicity of passages extending generally transversely to a longitudinal axis of the batten.
2. The batten of claim 1, in which the second ply includes a multiplicity of cross plies extending between the first plies.
3. The batten of claim 1, in which the second ply is generally convoluted.
4. The batten of claim 3, in which a pair of first plies is present.
5. The batten of claim 4, in which a plurality of layers are present.
6. The batten of claim 5, in which adjacent layers are hingably connected by a hingeline extending generally parallel to a batten longitudinal axis.
7. The batten of claim 6, in which the hingeline is defined by a slice extending through the second ply and one of the first plies.
8. The batten of claim 6, in which first and second hingelines are present, the first hingeline defined by a first slice extending through one of the first plies and the second ply, and the second hingeline defined by a second slice extending through the other of the first plies and the second ply.
9. The batten of claim 6, in which the hingeline is defined by alternate severed and intact portions, the severed portions comprising substantially severed first and second plies, the intact portions comprising substantially intact first and second plies.

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10. The batten of claim 5, in which the layers are stacked and fastened together.

11. The batten of claim 10, further comprising means for fastening the layers together.

12. The batten of claim 10, in which the layers are fastened together by stitching.

13. The batten of claim 10, in which the layers are fastened together by fasteners selected from the group consisting of staples, glue, hot air welding, stitching, ultrasonic welding, infrared bonding, and any combination thereof.

14. A method of installing a tile on a roof with a slope, comprising the steps of:

providing first and second battens, each batten comprising at least one layer of a material comprising first and second plies defining a multiplicity of air passages therethrough, the passages extending generally transversely to a longitudinal axis of the batten;

fixing the first and second battens on the roof such that longitudinal axes of the first and second battens are generally parallel and extend generally horizontally to the roof slope; and

fixing the tile atop the first and second battens.

15. The method of claim 14, in which the layer comprises a first and second generally planar ply and a generally convoluted ply disposed between the first and second plies.

16. The method of claim 15, in which the provided battens comprise a plurality of layers.

17. The method of claim 16, in which the layers further comprise means for fixing said layers in a stacked relationship.

18. The method of claim 17, in which the fixing means includes stitching.

19. The method of claim 17, in which the fixing means is selected from the group consisting of staples, glue, hot air welding, stitching, ultrasonic welding, infrared bonding, and any combination thereof.

20. The method of claim 15, in which the provided battens comprise a plurality of hingably-connected layers.

21. A spacer operatively disposable between a roof decking and an exterior roof material and comprising a plurality of stacked layers, each layer comprising a generally planar first ply and a second ply cooperating with the first ply to define a multiplicity of passages, the passages extending generally transversely to a longitudinal axis of the spacer, the layers fastened together by stitching, adjacent layers connected by a hingeline extending generally parallel to the spacer longitudinal axis.

22. A spacer operatively disposable between a roof decking and an exterior roof material and comprising a plurality of stacked, completely separated layers fastened together by stitching, each layer comprising a generally planar first ply and a second ply cooperating with the first ply to define a multiplicity of passages, the passages extending generally transversely to a longitudinal axis of the spacer.

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